



**April 4, 2020 - Prayer from Chaplain Venessa**

***Zechariah 13:9***

***They will call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say, this is My people; and each one will say, The Lord is my God.***

God of Hope, Your Spirit is alive in places where we see only death. Help us to be open to the possibilities of new life that lie before us.

On this fifth Saturday in Lent, we open ourselves to the possibility of new life in impossible situations. Like the prophet Ezekiel in the valley of dry bones and Jesus facing Lazarus' tomb, we are called to find life where all others have given up hope.

Jesus taught us how to love one another, we implore you Oh God, to lead us in our everyday life, in the ordinary moments – show us opportunities to live as Jesus taught. Enable us to hear you speaking to our heart, telling us the way we should go.

Thank you God, for the times you have protected us in the past and possibilities awaiting in the future. Surround us like a shield.

We lift up families affected by Covid19. They need to feel strength in you as they endure this season of challenges and illness. Provide for them Merciful God, fill them with a spirit of courage to take each step with you. Heal these families, loving Lord and give them peace.

We lift up to you for safety and wisdom, medical professionals, caregivers, and researchers responsible for fighting the Covid19.

Holy Spirit, we pray for families adjusting to new ways of life, as they adjust to everyone being home as businesses and schools close, we ask that You guide people in their new realities. Give spouses grace for each other. Prompt worn-out parents to speak words of kindness and encouragement to their children. Help children find creative ways to experience the beauty of all You have created and continue learning.

We ask for guidance, courage and perseverance for those businesses struggling and the families facing financial stress. Everyone is affected Oh God – Make your presence known in the midst of the hurts, the loss, the worries. We grow weary, we need to lean into you Lord. Into your comfort.

Pour your Spirit out on this community God that we may have unwavering faith, never-ending hope, and love beyond our understanding. We believe in your promises.

***Psalm 121:8***

***The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.***

**We pray continually pray to you day and night. - Amen**